

**ABSTRACT****METHOD FOR PRODUCING QUARTZ GLASS PREFORM  
FOR OPTICAL FIBERS**

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A method for producing a large quartz glass preform for optical fibers having a low ellipticity at a low cost is provided. The method comprises a heating and stretching of a large quartz glass cylinder or a preform in which a core rod is inserted in said quartz glass cylinder without being integrated with the cylinder in non-contact state, using a heating furnace equipped with a carbon-made heating element, whereby setting the ratio ( $d/D$ ) of the outer diameter ( $D$ ) of the large quartz glass cylinder and the inner diameter ( $d$ ) of the heating element to a range of from 1.02 to 1.5, and blowing in an inert gas from the upper part of the heating furnace (Fig. 1)

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